(ग) डी० सी० आई तथा पत्तनों की क्षमता से ज्यादा अतिरिक्त निकर्षण संबंधी आवश्यकताएं पूरी करने के लिए निम्नलिखित विदेशी फर्मों को अनुरक्षण निकर्षण हेतु ठेके दिए गए हैं:—

1. बम्बई पत्तन तथा नव मंगलूर पत्तन में नीदरलैंड की मै० हैम०, और

2. मूरगांव पत्तन में नीदरलैंड की मैं० वान ऊर्ड।

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में डाक वितरण प्रणाली की समीक्षा करना

2391. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोला:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या **संचार मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में डाक वितरण प्रणाली की समीक्षा की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या परिणाम निकले हैं; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाई की है?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम): (क) डाक सर्किल अध्यक्षों तथा अन्य फील्ड अधिकारियों द्वारा डाक वितरण प्रणाली की सामान्यतया और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की डाक वितरण प्रणाली की विशेष रूप से निरंतर मॉनीटरिंग व आवधिक पुनरीक्षा की जाती है।

(ख) और (ग) अंतः जिले की डाक का एक बड़ा भाग, जो मुख्यतः ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की डाक होती है, पोस्ट किए जाने वाले दिन के बाद से 48 घंटों के भीतर वितरित कर दी जाती है। तथापि, ट्रांसपोर्ट में विलंब और विभाग के नियंत्रण से बाहर अन्य कारणों से यदा-कदा होने वाले विलंब से इंकार नहीं किया जा सकता। जब भी ग्रामीण डाक वितरण से संबंधित कोई समस्या ध्यान में आती है, उसे दूर करने के लिए सुधारात्मक उपाय किए जाते हैं।

Violation of Human Rights in USA

2392. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the preceding year's report of Amnesty International about the rampant violations of human rights against ethnic minorities in U.S.A.;

(b) if so, what are the main reports involving NRIs and Americans of Indian Origin in USA that have come to Government's notice as per Amnesty International report and other-wise during 1993-94, 1994-95 and so far in 1995-96; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) While the Amnesty International Reports for the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 do cover specific instances of violation of human rights of ethnic minorities, particularly Blacks and Hispanics, they do not report any instance of such violation of rights of NRIs or Americans of Indian origin.

(c) Under the circumstances, there is no reason for the Government of India to react to these Reports.

Scarcity of LPG in Orissa and Bihar

2393. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be please to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the scarcity of LPG in Orissa and Bihar;

(b) if so, the steps taken to open new LPG agencies in those States;

(c) whether places have been identified for the location of LPG agencies in these States;

(d) if so, whether any such place has

been identified in Keonjhar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) The demand of the existing consumers of LPG in Bihar and Orissa, who are enrolled with the distributors of public sector oil companies is, by and large, being met in full. Temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of bottling plants for extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants in the adjoining areas.

(b) and (c) A total number of 95 locations in the State of Bihar and 28 locations in the State of Orissa have been approved in the 1994—96 Marketing plan for opening of LPG distributorships.

(d) and (e) An additional distributorship for Barbil in the District of Keonjhar has been approved in the 1994—96 Marketing Plan which has already been advertised on 16.11.1995.

Hired Telecom Office Premises in Assam

2394. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount of rent being paid per month by telecom department for various premises hired at Dibrugarh, Tinsukia and Guwahati, premises-wise;

(b) the names of offices functioning in hired premises office-wise and location wise details;

(c) whether Government propose to construct their own buildings to accommodate the said offices; if so, by when and the details there of, place-wise; and

(d) whether Government propose to upgrade telecom administrative set-up at Dibrugarh; if so, by when and the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM)): (a) Details of rent as per Statement-I *(See* below).

(b) Details of offices functioning in hired premises as per Statement-II *(See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir. An administrative office building at an estimated cost of Rs.8.52 crores is proposed to be constructed at Pan Bazar, Guwahati. Construction work is likely to be completed by March 2000.

(d) No, Sir.

Statement-I

Details of amount of monthly rent being paid premises-wise

Station	Sl.No.	Offices	Rent per month
Dibrugarh	1.	TDM Office	Rs. 8,418.00
	2.	TRA Unit	6,976.00
	3.	SDOT+SDOP+SDE/ Transmission Office	7,890.00
	4.	AE (Cable) office	2,000.00
	5.	AMT Office	1,200.00
Tinsukia	1.	SDOT/SDOP Office	3,000.00